

# HOUSE BILL No. 1184

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 20-20-22.2.

**Synopsis:** Scholarships for teachers. Establishes the call me mister scholarship program and fund: (1) to encourage and promote qualified African American male teachers to pursue a career in teaching in accredited schools in Indiana; (2) to enhance the number of individuals who may serve as role models for minority students in Indiana; and (3) to rectify the shortage of African American male teachers teaching in accredited schools in Indiana. Requires the state student assistance commission to administer the fund. Makes an appropriation.

**Effective:** July 1, 2008.

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**Smith V, Crawford**

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January 10, 2008, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

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Introduced

Second Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2008)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1184

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education and to make an appropriation.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-20-22.2 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2008]:

4 **Chapter 22.2. Call Me Mister Scholarship Program**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "approved institution of higher**  
6 **education" means a public or private college or university in**  
7 **Indiana authorized to award teaching degrees and chosen by the**  
8 **commission to administer the program established under section**  
9 **5 of this chapter.**

10 **Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "commission" refers to the state**  
11 **student assistance commission established by IC 21-11-2-1.**

12 **Sec. 3. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the call me**  
13 **mister scholarship fund established by section 6 of this chapter.**

14 **Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "program" refers to the call me**  
15 **mister program established under section 5 of this chapter.**

16 **Sec. 5. (a) The commission shall establish the call me mister**  
17 **program.**

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(b) The purpose of the program is:

- (1) to encourage and promote qualified African American male teachers to pursue a career in teaching in accredited schools in Indiana;
- (2) to enhance the number of individuals who may serve as role models for minority students in Indiana; and
- (3) to rectify the shortage of African American male teachers teaching in accredited schools in Indiana.

(c) The program:

- (1) shall be implemented by an approved institution of higher education; and
- (2) must ensure college preparation, leadership development, community responsibility, and successful life planning for African American males that will enable them to become certificated elementary school teachers in Indiana's accredited schools and serve as role models to economically and socially disadvantaged youth.

(d) The purpose of this chapter is to provide funds to an approved institution of higher education that offers and facilitates the program to provide tuition grants for African American male applicants who wish to complete a teacher certification program and become a fully certificated elementary or secondary school teacher in an accredited school in Indiana.

(e) The commission shall contract with an approved institution of higher education to administer the program.

(f) An approved institution of higher education seeking to implement the program shall submit an application in the form and at the time the commission requires. An application for the program contract must include a description of the nature and the method by which all funds granted will be used by the applicant to contribute to the implementation, maintenance, or improvement of the program.

Sec. 6. (a) The call me mister scholarship fund is established for the purpose of providing scholarships under the program.

(b) The commission shall administer the fund.

(c) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(d) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds may be invested.

Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), the money in the fund shall be used to provide annual scholarships to students who

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1 qualify under section 9(a) of this chapter in an amount that is equal  
2 to the lesser of the following amounts:

3 (1) The student's total cost in attending an approved  
4 institution of higher education for the academic year.

5 (2) One thousand dollars (\$1,000).

6 (b) Subject to section 8(c) of this chapter, each scholarship  
7 awarded under subsection (a) or (c) is renewable under section 9(b)  
8 of this chapter for a total scholarship award that does not exceed  
9 eight (8) semesters (or its equivalent).

10 (c) If a student qualifies under section 9(a) of this chapter and  
11 demonstrates to the commission financial need in an amount  
12 greater than that described in subsection (a), the annual  
13 scholarship that the student may receive is equal to the lesser of the  
14 following amounts:

15 (1) The student's total cost in attending the approved  
16 institution of higher education for the academic year.

17 (2) Four thousand dollars (\$4,000).

18 Sec. 8. (a) The commission for higher education under  
19 IC 21-18-2-2 shall provide the commission with the most recent  
20 information concerning the number of individuals who are enrolled  
21 at approved institutions of higher education and who are pursuing  
22 a course of study that would enable the student, upon graduation,  
23 to be licensed to teach in an accredited school in Indiana.

24 (b) The commission shall allocate the available money from the  
25 fund to each approved institution of higher education in proportion  
26 to the number of students enrolled at each approved institution of  
27 higher education as described in subsection (a), based on the  
28 information received by the commission under subsection (a).

29 (c) Each approved institution of higher education shall  
30 determine the scholarship recipients under this chapter based on  
31 the criteria set forth in section 9 of this chapter and the rules  
32 adopted by the commission under section 12 of this chapter.  
33 However, the approved institution of higher education may not  
34 grant a scholarship renewal to a student for an academic year that  
35 ends later than six (6) years after the date the student received the  
36 initial scholarship under this chapter.

37 (d) Any funds that:

38 (1) are allocated to an approved institution of higher  
39 education; and

40 (2) are not used for scholarships under this chapter;

41 shall be returned to the commission for reallocation by the  
42 commission to any other approved institution of higher education

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in need of additional funds.

**Sec. 9. (a) To initially qualify for a scholarship from the fund, a student must:**

(1) be admitted to an approved institution of higher education as a full-time student or attend an approved institution of higher education as a full-time student;

(2) be:

(A) an African American male; and

(B) from among the residents of Indiana who reside in an underserved, socioeconomically disadvantaged, or educationally at risk community;

(3) intend to pursue or, in the case of a student who attends an approved institution of higher education, pursue a course of study that would enable the student, upon graduation, to teach in an accredited school in Indiana;

(4) agree in writing to teach, for at least three (3) of the first five (5) years following the student's certification as a teacher, in an accredited school located in Indiana; and

(5) meet any other minimum criteria established by the commission.

**(b) To qualify for a scholarship renewal from the fund, a student must:**

(1) comply with the criteria set forth in subsection (a); and

(2) maintain at least the cumulative grade point average:

(A) that is required by an approved institution of higher education for admission to the approved institution's school of education; or

(B) of 2.0 on a 4.0 grading scale, or its equivalent, as established by the approved institution of higher education, if the approved institution's school of education does not require a certain minimum cumulative grade point average.

**Sec. 10. The amount of a scholarship under this chapter may not be reduced because the student receives other scholarships or forms of financial aid. In addition, unless otherwise permitted under law, the amount of any other state financial aid received by a student may not be reduced because the student receives a scholarship under this chapter.**

**Sec. 11. (a) The commission shall maintain complete and accurate records in implementing the program, including records of the following:**

(1) Scholarships awarded under this chapter.

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(2) The number of individuals who fulfill the agreement described under section 9(a)(4) of this chapter.

(3) The number of individuals who do not fulfill the agreement described under section 9(a)(4) of this chapter.

(b) Each approved institution of higher education shall provide the commission with information concerning the following:

(1) The awarding of scholarships under this chapter.

(2) The academic progress made by each recipient of a scholarship under this chapter.

(3) Other pertinent information requested by the commission.

Sec. 12. The commission shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this chapter, including rules governing the enforcement of the agreements under section 9(a)(4) of this chapter.

Sec. 13. There is annually appropriated to the commission from the state general fund one million dollars (\$1,000,000) to provide funds for annual distribution to approved institutions of higher education in accordance with this chapter for the purpose of offering and facilitating the call me mister program to provide tuition grants for African American male applicants who wish to complete a teacher certification program and become a fully certificated elementary or secondary school teacher in a public school in Indiana.

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